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SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

23 June 1965
SG-65/421

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussions with CATIDE on Index Mechanization,
Joint Soviet Travel, 7-10 June 1965

1. The undersigned and Identity of DIR-14396, along with [] and [] met with @ACKERMANN, @KREUZBURG and several other CATIDE ers. MLB is requested to provide a complete list of those attending.

2. The meetings consisted of 3-1/2 days of intensive technical discussion of the problems of index mechanization. As a result of our demand for a description of the CATIDE indexing and file system, we received details never before reported. The gist of this system is as follows; MLB may wish to add details and comments:

a. CATIDE has an archaic index card and file system which involves some 1.5 million index cards (see exhibit 1) which lead to dossiers filed in country sections and subfiled by intelligence service.

b. There is no document control.

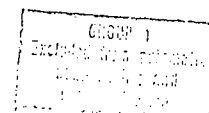
c. There is no management/registry control over incoming documents. The operational sections forward documents to registry for indexing at their discretion.

d. CATIDE makes its index cards in 2 copies - one filed by name according to the CAVATA phonetic system, the other filed in a location index (city and street). (Exhibit 1)

e. Many SHAEF-type cards (CI cards with multiple entries) remain in the index, and are filed in dossier jackets as they are surfaced (exhibit 2).

f. Cross reference cards (exhibit 3) are included in the central index.

g. CATIDE runs 12,000 traces a month against the index, not counting update transactions. There are no purge criteria.



h. There are no indexing criteria established and imposed by CATIDE as a matter of organization policy. Each desk officer determines what will be indexed according to his own professional standards and the traditions developed in his area of activity.

3. Conclusions drawn from exposure to this card/file system are:

a. The organization is at the mercy of the operational desk, and individual case officer, for the central recording of significant data. Even if documents are forwarded to the registry for processing, considerable time may elapse. There is no control over the final filing of documents on dossiers.

b. The card index itself is organized on a highly restrictive phonetic system which guarantees inadequate tracing. (See exhibit 4)

4. A detailed report is to be prepared by CATIDE, on @ACKERMANN's instructions, on the content of the briefings. This will be sent to Headquarters for critique, and will also serve to comprise the report on the information presented by KUBARK. In essence, the KUBARK visitors described all of the major problems of index mechanization from input (flexowriter) processing to computer printout, including a strong attack on phonetic systems, description of the name grouping principle, document control and retrieval (a re-cap of the Walnut system), security problems in an ADP environment, plans for mechanization of the [] index (which very closely parallels the CATIDE requirement), programing and machine problems, conversion of the manual system, manpower requirements, and the like. A considerable amount of time was spent explaining the evolution of our system from 1958 to 1964 to show CATIDE how one could begin building machine records while continuing the manual index until switchover.

5. CATIDE is planning to purchase an IBM 360/40 machine shortly - delivery in 24 months. CATIDE feels that its number 1 priority is index mechanization and file system re-orientation, and is obviously prepared to put considerable resources into this effort. The team is led by @ACKERMANN, whose total grasp of the principles and problems at all levels is truly remarkable. The machine "expert", @KREUZBURG, however, is a fool and a menace to the project.

6. @ACKERMANN noted repeatedly that CATIDE had to rely exclusively on KUDOVE experience, IBM being no help with this kind of problem. We agreed to continue discourse, and will send sterilized technical papers to indicate the types of problems to be studied. @ACKERMANN agreed, however, that it was neither possible nor desirable for CATIDE to copy our system. There was no mention of a CATIDE trip to Headquarters this year.

7. The undersigned invited CATIDE to participate in the joint Soviet travel program along with CAVATA. @ACKERMANN asked for a written proposal with details prior to acceptance. He and others expressed interest in the Soviet program, but even more in Satellite travel.

8. In essence, all KUBARK participants in this conference felt that CATIDE is going to concentrate formidable resources on the revamping of its index and file system, is heavily reliant on KUDOVE guidance, and is willing to reveal its internal procedures to a marked degree in order to obtain our help.

9. It is clear from the revelations during this session that CATIDE's capability for name tracing and information support in protection of its own operational security, and its response to name trace requests from other services, is poor.

10. The undersigned suggested that it may be possible, although he had no authority to make a formal offer at this time, for the unique surname and given names spellings in the CATIDE index to be matched against the names grouped by KUDOVE, MHGYRUS, and the Chicago Title and Trust Company in order to give CATIDE the benefit of the linguistic effort which has taken place over the last several years in the United States in name grouping.

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[w/o exhibit]

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PDD:nt